

#6/A
7/30/02

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 2356.0011-10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Marc ALIZON et al.) Prior Application
Appln. No.: Not yet assigned) Group Art Unit: 1648
Filed: February 19, 2002) Examiner: Parkin, J.
For: VARIANT OF LAV VIRUSES)

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

LAV MAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of this application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

*simply an AA composition
between BRU, ARV-2, MAL, & ELI*

Please cancel claims 1-22.

Please add claims 23-28 as follows:

--23. (New) An immunogenic, HIV-1 Env peptide of 5-150 amino acid residues of LAV_{MAL} Env sequences in Figures 3A-3F; wherein at least one amino acid residue of said peptide is substituted in all of the sequences designated LAV_{BRU}, ARV2, and LAV_{ELI} in Figures 3A-3F; wherein said peptide binds to antibodies in AIDS patient sera; and wherein said antibodies are capable of binding to viral antigens encoded by the LAV_{MAL} molecular clone having C.N.C.M. accession number I-641.

CONFIDENTIAL

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com